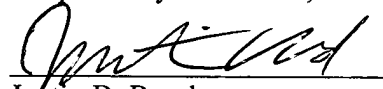


Appl. No. 10/612,199
Preliminary Amendment Dated 11/3/2003

Remarks/Arguments

This Preliminary Amendment is being presented to perfect Applicants' claim of priority to the above-identified U.S. patent application. It is believed that this amendment does not involve new matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin B. Rand
Registration No. 48,552
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER
GILSON & LIONE
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, Illinois 60610
(312) 321-4200

Dated: November 3, 2003